Take a Stand Against Crime

What types of crimes do we have in The Woodlands?

The most common crimes in our community are crimes of opportunity. These include:

- Burglary of Motor Vehicle (BMV) The number one crime of opportunity in our community!
- Burglary of Habitation
- Vandalism/Criminal Mischief

How can these crimes be prevented?

- Lock your vehicle doors. The majority of BMVs involve vehicles that were unlocked at the time of the theft. If possible, park your vehicles in a locked garage. Do not park on the street.
- Do not leave items in your vehicles. If you do leave items in your vehicle, put them out of sight.
- Use motion detector lighting in your driveway.
- Lock the doors to your house and keep your garage doors closed.
- Do not open the door to any stranger.
- Know your neighbors.

How can a watch program help reduce these crimes?

- A Neighborhood Watch is an effective way to reduce crimes of opportunity because it is about neighbor knowing neighbor. Knowing our neighbors fights the isolation that crime both creates and feeds upon. It forges bonds among area residents, providing extra eyes and ears for reporting crime.
- Through a Neighborhood Watch, residents learn how to make their homes more secure, watch out for each other and the neighborhood, and report activity that raises their suspicions to their local law enforcement.

What are examples of suspicious activities?

Report these incidents to local law enforcement.

- Someone screaming or shouting for help.
- Someone looking in windows of houses and/or parked cars.
- Property being taken out of houses where no one is at home or from closed businesses.
- Cars, vans, or trucks moving slowly with no apparent destination or without lights.
- Anyone being forced into a vehicle.
- Business transactions conducted from a vehicle, especially around a school or park where juveniles are involved.
- A stranger sitting in a car or stopping to talk to a child.

What do I have to do as a Watch Member?

Be alert!

- An alert neighbor knows who lives in the neighborhood and can recognize strangers.
- Observes any unusual activity in your neighborhood
- Knows which houses are unoccupied during the day and who is on vacation
- Learns how you can make yourself and your community safer.
- Immediately reports suspicious activities and crimes to local law enforcement.
- Calls 9-1-1 in an emergency!

Although some suspicious activity in your neighborhood could have an innocent explanation, law enforcement would rather investigate the situation than be called when it is too late to prevent a crime. Don't worry about appearing nosy or foolish. Your call may save a life, prevent an injury or stop a criminal act.

What should I do about solicitors?

Solicitation is not a crime. It is not illegal to solicit in The Woodlands. As a resident you
make the choice of whether to listen to and/or buy from a solicitor. However, a solicitor is
a stranger! DO NOT OPEN THE DOOR! Ask the solicitor to leave your property. If the
stranger refuses to leave after being told to do so, call local law enforcement. Explain
that you have asked the stranger to leave your property and what the stranger is doing
that makes you feel threatened, uncomfortable and/or suspicious.

